AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Amendment cancels claim 2, and amends claims 1 and 3. Upon entering this Amendment, the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A container stopper comprising a core formed of an elastic material and having a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface continuous with the liquid-contact surface, the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface being coated with a skin made of a synthetic resin;

wherein said skin is a polyester skin made of a polyester resin or a synthetic resin having a polyester resin as a main component thereof, and the polyester skin is bonded to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface of said core through a polyethylene bonding layer formed of a polyethylene resin or having a polyethylene resin as a main component thereof; ~~and~~

the liquid-contact surface comprises: a chamfer continuous with the outer peripheral surface, and a center portion surrounded by the chamfer;

said polyethylene bonding layer has a thickness of 80 to 300 μm at [[a]] the center portion of the liquid-contact surface, a thickness of 70 to 100 μm at an outer peripheral portion of the outer peripheral surface adjacent the liquid-contact surface and a thickness of 30 μm or more ~~over~~ at a portion of the ~~entire~~ liquid-contact surface other than the center portion, and

the thickness of said polyethylene bonding layer at the center portion is 10 μm or more greater than the thickness of the polyethylene bonding layer at the outer peripheral portion.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended). The container stopper according to claim 1, wherein the polyethylene bonding layer at the liquid-contact surface comprises two layers and the polyethylene bonding layer at the outer peripheral surface comprises [[a]] one layer.

Claim 4 (Original). The container stopper according to claim 1, wherein said polyester skin is a skin made of polyethylene terephthalate.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn). A method of manufacturing a container stopper comprising a core formed of an elastic material and having a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface continuous with the liquid-contact surface, the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface being coated with a skin made of a synthetic resin, wherein the method comprises the steps of: using a polyester film of a polyester resin or a synthetic resin having a polyester resin as a main component thereof as said skin; stretching the polyester film; press fitting the core in a heated state for extension; bonding the polyester film and the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface of said core through a polyethylene bonding layer of a polyethylene resin or having a polyethylene resin as a main component thereof, wherein the bonding layer has a greater thickness at a portion thereof corresponding to the liquid-contact surface than the other portions.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn). The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of: using a polyester skin having a skin-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer bonded to an inner surface thereof as said skin; using a core having a core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer bonded to a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface thereof as said core; and integrating said skin-side and core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layers by thermal fusion to form said polyethylene bonding layer.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn). The method according to claim 6, wherein the core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer comprises at least two films including a first film corresponding to the liquid-contact surface and a second film corresponding to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral face.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn). The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of: bonding the second film to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface of the core after bonding the first film to the liquid-contact surface of the core, whereby the core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer is formed.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn). The method according to claim 6, wherein said skin is a polyester skin having the skin-side adhesion forming layer of polyethylene bonded to an inner surface thereof by a dry laminate method.